

**WHO DID  
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Mar. 3, 2014

12/04/2011

**Sermon in a sentence: Jesus broke all the rules of social convention to let us know He came for US!**

**Scriptures: Luke 4: 14-30; (Is. 61:1-3); Luke 3:15-17; Luke 7:18-19; Luke 7:21-23; (Is. 11:1-11; Is. 49:1-6); Luke 7:36-50**

**Luke 4:14-30 (NASB) And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district. 15 And He began teaching in their synagogues and was praised by all. 16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. 17 And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed, 19 To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord." 20 And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." 22 And all were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His lips; and they were saying, "Is this not Joseph's son?" 23 And He said to them, "No doubt you will quote this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we heard was done at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.' " 24 And He said, "Truly I say to you, no prophet is welcome in his hometown. 25 "But I say to you in truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land; 26 and yet Elijah was sent to none of them, but**

only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. 27 "And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." 28 And all the people in the synagogue were filled with rage as they heard these things; 29 and they got up and drove Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city had been built, in order to throw Him down the cliff. 30 But passing through their midst, He went His way.

**Luke 4:18-19 - Jesus gave a clear statement of His mission: He had come to preach the gospel, release captives, heal the sick, proclaim the Lord's favour.**

**v. 20-22: Folks were excited. They spoke well of Him. They were amazed at the gracious words "falling from His lips". They were starting to get the picture that this man who had already begun to gain such a reputation for Himself in Capernaum was really one of their very own.**

**Their little village of 500 people had been favoured by God to see the coming of Messiah!**

**Thus, "Is this not Joseph's son?" was not a negative statement. In their context and culture, they were recognizing Jesus as their kin. Their family. From their town. Therefore, they were sure He would put them at the very top of His list as beneficiaries of His Messianic mission!**

**Instead, Jesus shocked them by completely going against their expectations, highlighting OT miracles of God that had bypassed His own people to benefit sinners, outcasts, the disadvantaged and Gentiles!**

**When they heard this, it was so outrageous, their opinion of Him was immediately reversed and they decided to**

**promptly kill Him. (He slipped through their fingers and escaped).**

**A little tour through the scriptures will show us that Jesus was very serious about His mission.**

**Ch. 5 - Jesus healed a leper (v. 12-14); He healed a paralytic and forgave his sins (17-26); He called a tax collector (Levi a.k.a. Matthew), as one of His disciples (v. 27-32).**

**Ch. 7 - He healed a centurion's slave, (a powerless Gentile servant who was serving a powerful Roman master, one who was the very symbol of oppression) (v. 1-10); He raised the widow of Nain's son (v. 11-15).**

**A delegation was sent from John to see Him (Luke 7:18-19).**

**Luke 7:18-19 (NASB) The disciples of John reported to him about all these things. 19 Summoning two of his disciples, John sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?"**

**John wanted to know: "Did I introduce the wrong person to Israel? I was looking for a righteous judge with a winnowing fork in His hand, but You just seem to be there doing good and helping all the wrong people!" (see Luke 3:15-17).**

**Luke 3:15-17 (NASB) Now while the people were in a state of expectation and all were wondering in their hearts about John, as to whether he was the Christ, 16 John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 "His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."**

**Jesus responded that He was fulfilling His mission as He had outlined it in Nazareth (7:21-23):**

**Luke 7:21-23 (NASB) At that very time He cured many people of diseases and afflictions and evil spirits; and He gave sight to many who were blind. 22 And He answered and said to them, "Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have the gospel preached to them. 23 "Blessed is he who does not take offense at Me."**

**(See also Is. 11:1-11; Is. 49:1-6 regarding salvation for the Gentiles.)**

**Isaiah 11:1-11 (NASB) Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. 3 And He will delight in the fear of the Lord, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, nor make a decision by what His ears hear; 4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, and decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. 5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, and faithfulness the belt about His waist. 6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them. 7 Also the cow and the bear will graze, Their young will lie down together, And the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. 9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea. 10 **Then in that day the nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal for the peoples;** And His resting place**

will be glorious. 11 Then it will happen on that day that the Lord Will again recover the second time with His hand The remnant of His people, who will remain, From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, And from the islands of the sea.

**Isaiah 49:1-6 (NASB) Listen to Me, O islands, and pay attention, you peoples from afar.** The Lord called Me from the womb; from the body of My mother He named Me. 2 He has made My mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of His hand He has concealed Me; And He has also made Me a select arrow, He has hidden Me in His quiver. 3 He said to Me, "You are My Servant, Israel, In Whom I will show My glory." 4 But I said, "I have toiled in vain, I have spent My strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely the justice due to Me is with the Lord, and My reward with My God." 5 And now says the Lord, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel might be gathered to Him (For I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and My God is My strength), 6 He says, "**It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**"

Hearing and understanding who He had come for, the crowd and the tax collectors responded positively and received what Jesus had to offer (7:29).

On the other hand, the majority of the 'religious right' (Pharisees and lawyers) totally rejected Jesus (7:30)!

Meanwhile, Jesus was busy demonstrated what kind of people He had come for. As an example, we look to the dinner given at Simon the Pharisees house (7:36-50).

**Luke 7:36-50 (NASB) Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him, and He entered the**

Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. 37 And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume, 38 and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner." 40 And Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he replied, "Say it, Teacher." 41 "A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 "When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly." 44 Turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 "You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet. 46 "You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume. 47 "For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little." 48 Then He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven." 49 Those who were reclining at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this man who even forgives sins?" 50 And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

**He came to save notorious sinners like the woman in this story, and He praised her for her love and desire to bless Him, even in the midst of hostile onlookers.**

**Jesus came for people like you and me. As bad as you may actually be, or as bad as you may *think* you are, or as bad**

**as the devil has convinced you that you are, Jesus came for you.**

**Don't turn and walk away from Him today.**

**Allow Him to fulfill His purpose for you and for your life: healing, deliverance, restoration, liberty, favour and most importantly - salvation.**